

4 of FIG. 2 rotates about the left side edge portion. With this configuration, the data entry panel 6 can be protected by the flip panel 317 when it is closed and both of the data entry panel 6 and the secondary display 318 will show up when the flip panel 317 is opened. Thus, the display size can be extended without increasing the size of the terminal apparatus.

Numerous additional modifications and variations of the present invention are possible in the light of the above teachings. It is therefore to be understood that within the scope of the appended claims, the present invention may be practiced otherwise than as specifically described herein.

What is claimed as new and is desired to be secured by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A portable electronic terminal apparatus, comprising:
a main body having a hollow section;
an information input mechanism by which information including data and instructions can be input;
a plurality of displays which display said input information on a plurality of display screens;
a communications mechanism which transmits and receives said input information; and
a flip panel movably mounted on said main body and configured to rotatably open and close about a side edge portion of said flip panel, said flip panel being retracted into said hollow section of said main body when closed,
wherein one of said plurality of displays is mounted on a side of said flip panel display screen that is exposed when closed.
2. The apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein another one of said plurality of displays is mounted on a surface in said hollow section of said main body.
3. The apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein another one of said plurality of displays is mounted on another side of said flip panel.
4. The apparatus as defined in claim 1, each of said plurality of displays is a polymer-film liquid crystal display.

5. The apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said plurality of displays are selectively used by a user instruction input through said information input mechanism.

6. The apparatus as defined in claim 3, wherein said one of said plurality of displays operates when said flip panel is closed, and said other one of said plurality of displays operates when said flip panel is opened.

7. A portable electronic terminal apparatus, comprising:
a main body having a hollow section;
an information input mechanism by which information including data and instructions can be input;
display means for displaying a plurality of displays of said input information on a plurality of display screens;
a communications mechanism which transmits and receives said input information; and
flip panel means for movably mounted on said main body and for rotatably opening and closing about a side edge portion of a flip panel, said flip panel being retracted into said hollow section of said main body when closed, wherein one of said plurality of display means is mounted on a side of said flip panel display screen that is exposed when closed.

8. The apparatus as defined in claim 7, wherein another one of said plurality of display means is mounted on a surface in said hollow section of said main body.

9. The apparatus as defined in claim 7, wherein another one of said plurality of display means is mounted on another side of said flip panel.

10. The apparatus as defined in claim 7, each of said plurality of display means is a polymer-film liquid crystal display.

11. The apparatus as defined in claim 7, wherein said plurality of display means are selectively used by a user instruction input through said information input mechanism.

12. The apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said one of said plurality of display means operates when said flip panel is closed, and said other one of said plurality of display means operates when said flip panel is opened.

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